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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION OF OBSERVERS IN TAJIKISTAN

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Djamel MOKTEFI (Algeria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 54th and 58th meetings, on 20 and 26 March 1998. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/52/SR.54 and 58).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/52/772/Add.1) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/52/817).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/52/L.25

4. At the 58th meeting, on 26 March, the Rapporteur of the Committee introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan" (A/C.5/52/L.25), submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.25 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission of Observers, the most recent of which was resolution 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997, by which the Council authorized the Secretary-General to expand the size of the Mission and extended its mandate,

Recalling also its resolution 49/240 of 31 March 1995 on the financing of the Mission of Observers and its subsequent resolutions and decision thereon, the latest of which was resolution 51/237 of 13 June 1997,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission of Observers are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission of Observers, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission of Observers,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission of Observers with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

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[1] A/52/772/Add.1.

[2] A/52/817.

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan as at 20 March 1998, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 3,232,333 United States dollars, representing 12 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission of Observers to the period ending 15 May 1998, notes that some 12 per cent of Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure the payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission of Observers in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission of Observers is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Decides, taking into account the commitment authority provided by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan a total amount of 15,000,000 dollars gross (14,335,000 dollars net) for the expansion of the Mission of Observers for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of $8,275,700 gross ($7,721,300 net) already appropriated under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 51/237;

8. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 5,379,440 dollars gross (5,290,960 dollars net) for the period ending 15 May 1998 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and 52/215 of 22 December 1997 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B and 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997 and 1998, as set out in its resolutions 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and 52/215, respectively, in addition to the amount of 7,241,241 dollars gross (6,756,141 dollars net) already apportioned for the period ending 15 May 1998;

9. Decides further, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 2,379,319 dollars gross (2,287,899 dollars net) for the period from 16 May to 30 June 1998 among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 8 above, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission of Observers beyond 15 May 1998;

10. Decides that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 8 and 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the total estimated staff assessment income of 665,000 dollars approved for the period ending 30 June 1998;

11. Invites voluntary contributions to the Mission of Observers in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

12. Decides to keep under review during its fifty-second session the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan".